GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4444
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2016
Categorising Vitamins and Food Supplements as Medicines
Sonker Smt. Neelam

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recommended to bring the Vitamins and supplements under the category of medicine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued/or likely to issue any directions to the pharmaceutical companies in this regard so that these items may be tested and prescribe the doses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)

(a) & (b): Under the existing provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 vitamins and supplements intended to be used in the treatment, mitigation or prevention of any disease or disorder in human beings or animals are classified as "drug".
(c) & (d): Schedule V of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 prescribes lower and upper standards for patent or proprietary medicines containing vitamins for prophylactic, therapeutic or paediatric use.
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